

## Eades, Cassaundra

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**From:** Foont, Jennie <Jennie.Foont@mail.house.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 26, 2017 1:44 PM  
**To:** OCIRmail  
**Subject:** Constituent Inquiry - (b) (6)  
**Attachments:** (b) (6).pdf

Attached is a privacy release for (b) (6)

(b) (6) has sent me the following email:

As we discussed the first thing I'd like you to help find information about is the (b) (6) why the position was competed after I was asked to transfer into the role.

The second I'd like help with is the question as to why my detail in the Administrator's Office was not extended as it had been for the last two Special Assistants from (b) (6). (b) (6) claims it had nothing to do with the decision not to extend my detail. The (b) (6) said both to me as well as in a meeting of the Special Assistants and Acting (b) (6), that (b) (6) had been asking for me for several months. My performance review from October was "Exceed Expectations" and I was not given any indication that I was not performing satisfactorily in the role by management in the (b) (6). (b) (6) continues to deny they requested my detail not be extended despite being informed of the (b) (6)'s comments.

A coworker (white male) from (b) (6) is currently serving as the (b) (6) for the (b) (6) in the (b) (6). (b) (6) detail in set to end in five weeks. (b) (6) is extended while mine was ended "early" will be somewhat concerning (b) (6).

Are you able to provide an update of where is case stands and answer his questions?

Thank you.

All the best,

Jennie Foont  
Senior Case Manager  
**Congressman Jamie Raskin (MD-08)**  
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## CONGRESSMAN JAMIE RASKIN

Date of Birth:

(b) (6)

Social Security Number:

(b) (6)

## INFORMATION FROM STEP ONE

Name: (b) (6)

Agency Involved: US EPA

Agency Case Number(s) (VA claim, Alien number, tax ID, etc.): None

Name: (b) (6)

Branch of Service (If Applicable):

Military Rank (If Applicable):

Street Address: (b) (6)

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Email: (b) (6)

I, (b) (6), authorize the US EPA to release personal information to Congressman Jamie Raskin United States Representative. I authorize Congressman Jamie Raskin to request and have access to all records and reports pertinent to my request for assistance in the following matter:

Nature of Problem: I've been encouraged by my attorneys to reach out to you about my experience at EPA and an EEO complaint I filed in February. The complaint was the culmination of both several specific events as well as years of frustration at being denied career development opportunities by my home office (b) (6) while younger attorneys, mainly white, were given specific cases, developmental details, leadership opportunity and promotions. I took a leave of absence in 2012 because of the lack of development opportunity, to attend (b) (6) program. When I returned to EPA, (b) (6) again denied me career development opportunities citing my leave of absence. I had, until recently, been serving on my first career development detail in my nine years at EPA. I was serving in the (b) (6). In October, my performance evaluation by the (b) (6) was for the first time in my career "Exceeds Expectations". No matter the level of effort I had put in previously, no matter what awards or recognition I received, I had always been rated "Fully Satisfactory" by my home office. So it came as a surprise in February when the (b) (6) would not extend my detail, as has been the case for the last two (b) (6) (three years each). The (b) (6) had been asking for me for several months. (b) (6) denies that they requested my detail not be extended. I requested a transfer to somewhere else in the agency, somewhere that could utilize my Hill experience, tribal judicial experience, or my aviation law experience. (b) (6) neither approved or denied my request...they simply let the time run out until I was forced to return to (b) (6). While I am frustrated at having to return to an office that I believe has favored younger, white attorneys I am trying to be a team player given the situation EPA finds itself in. My specific concern and why my attorneys encouraged me to reach out to you is the fact that last summer, the politically appointed (b) (6) reached out to me and asked if I would be interested in serving as (b) (6) Deputy. She cited my tribal judgeship, federal Indian law background and Hill experience in addition to (b) (6) and a desire to have a (b) (6) (b) (6) leading the office given the issues of cultural sensitivity when dealing with tribal communities as the reason she wanted me for the position. It being an incredible opportunity for me I quickly agreed. She said that she would speak to the Office of General Counsel and the Deputy Administrator in order to make it happen, but that as I would be replacing another attorney in the role, it should not be a problem. In the interests of brevity the position was announced in October and limited to competitive service only (attorneys are excepted service), when I protested and the (b) (6) and union reached out to the (b) (6) an announcement was made encouraging attorneys to apply. Six weeks later, returning from tribal court, I learned that interviews were being conducted. The Monday after the inauguration I found out the position had been filled. OITA leadership apologized for the lack of communication and stated to me that attorneys had simply not been considered when filling the position. My concern here is 1. I was asked to transfer into the role and something happened to change that and 2. In competing the position and excluding attorneys from consideration (b) (6) e

(b) (6) from consideration. I can forward my complaint and timeline that I submitted to EPA's Office of Civil Rights when I filed my EEO complaint. It details a third incident, which while concerning, is more supportive of a larger pattern than distinctly offensive. But given the culmination of the the three events, I felt that given my experience with Congressman Conyer (b) (6) I had no choice but to stand up for what I think is subtle, but intentional discrimination. Anything you or your office can do to assist, any words of advice you have for me are greatly appreciated. Sincerely, (b) (6)

**PLEASE NOTE:**

The Privacy Act of 1974 requires that Members of Congress or their staff have written authorization before they can obtain information about an individual. We must have your signature to proceed with a casework inquiry.

Signature -----

Date: -----